



Sandy Hook Visitor Programs

Summer 2010

June, July and August

Tune to Radio 680 AM when entering the park for general park safety and program guide information.

Parking and Passes

Beginning on Memorial Day weekend, lifeguards are on duty from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For your safety, please swim only in guarded areas. Beach parking fees are in effect 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Memorial Day through Labor Day. There are no fees for pedestrians, bicyclists, or for visiting Fort Hancock. *Call the Sandy Hook Visitor Center about free parking for ranger-guided programs: 732-872-5970.*

Traffic Advisory

Expect heavy weekend and holiday traffic delays due to Highlands Bridge construction. Arriving before 11 a.m. on weekends and holidays is advised. Visitors can call 511 or 1-866-511-6538 and say "Traffic," then "Route 36" to hear the latest traffic information. There are new traffic patterns entering and exiting Sandy Hook, so drive with caution through the area. View the NJDOT Highlands Bridge Replacement website, and click on "Cameras" on the left-hand links column for more information including live traffic views from cameras stationed in and around the park.

GPS address for Sandy Hook:
128 South Hartshorne Drive Highlands, NJ
07732

Ferry Services

Ferry service to Sandy Hook is offered this summer from the SeaStreak and American Princess ferry companies. SeaStreak departs from Pier 11 and East 35th Street twice daily, 7 days per week between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Call 1-800-BOATRIDE or visit seastreak.com for more info. For the American Princess call 718-474-0555 or go to americanprincesscruises.com for dates, ticket prices and information about the "nature cruise," offered afternoons in the waters around Sandy Hook. Free shuttle buses to beaches are available upon arrival.

Pets on the Beach

March 15-Labor Day: Pets are not allowed on ocean side beaches. Pets are permitted at Fort Hancock and on bayside beaches if leashed.

Park Hours

April 1 – November 1: 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Sandy Hook 24-hour Emergency Number: 732-872-5900

Sandy Hook Visitor Center

Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 732-872-5970

Fort Hancock Museum

Closed for renovations.

Sandy Hook Lighthouse Tours & Keepers Quarters

Weekdays starting June 1, 1pm-4:30pm; Weekends, noon-4:30 pm
See (and climb!) the nation's oldest operating lighthouse, and then enjoy exhibits about the evolution of New Jersey lighthouses in the adjacent Keeper's Quarters. Closed-toed shoes recommended; space is limited and is on a first-come, first-served basis; climbers must be at least 48" tall.

History House

Fort Hancock's Officers Row, Building 20

Daily from 1pm-5pm from June 20-August 28

Step back in time to the 1940's at History House, where visitors can help make WWII recipes, cultivate the Victory Garden, and spend time with living historians learning about the era.

Sandy Hook Bird Observatory

Fort Hancock's Officers Row, Building 20

June: Tuesday– Saturday 10 am – 5 pm ; Sundays 10 am – 3 pm

July and August: Tuesday – Friday 10 am – 5 pm

Bookshops and displays run by the NJ Audubon society: Call 732-872-2500

Battery Potter

Weekends, 1pm-4:30pm, June 6-August 28

Visit the nation's oldest concrete gun emplacement, and decide for yourself whether it was a technological marvel or a military mistake.

Battery Gunnison

Weekends, 1-5pm, June 6-August 29

Visit and chat with living historians from the Army Ground Forces Association to find out why the 6" guns here were fired 6 times between the fall of 1943 and spring of 1944.

Nike Missile Radar Site

Parking Lot L at Horseshoe Cove

The Radar Site will be open 12 to 4 pm on the following days:

Saturdays June 26, July 10 & 31, August 21;

Sundays, June 6, July 18, August 8 & 29.

The Sandy Hook Nike missile site was part of the air defenses around New York City from the 1950s through the 1970s. Tour the radar site where the supersonic Nike missiles were controlled and guided.

Food, Concessions & Sea Gull's Nest Restaurant:

Seagull's Nest Restaurant: Area D, open daily from 12 p.m.-10 p.m.

All beach snack bars open 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Open Memorial Day to Labor Day. Restaurant and snack bars are open seven days a week. Call 732-872-0025 for more information, catering, and beach umbrella rentals. Visit HS Concessions online at www.hsconcessions.com.

Music on the Hook

Sandy Hook Summer Beach Concerts. On the Beach at Area E, Wednesdays at 6 p.m. The Sandy Hook Foundation sponsors this annual free concert series. If weather is a factor, a decision will be made at 2 p.m. on the day of the concert. Go to www.sandyhookfoundationnj.org or call 732-291-7733 for rain cancellations.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Performer</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Performer</i>
June 23rd	Quincy Mumford (Rock n' Reggae)	July 28th	Pat Guadagno & the Candle Bros. (Folk Rock)
June 30th	Tim McLoone and the Shirlies (Rock/Americana)	August 4th	Tim McLoone and the Shirlies (Rock)
July 7th	The Shots (Party Rock with a Celtic Flair)	August 11th	Robert Murdock Band (British Invasion)
July 14th	Brian Kirk & the Jirks (Rock/Pop)	August 18th	Rain Date
July 21st	Bethanne Clayton (Country Rock)	August 25th	JoBonnano and the Godsons of Soul (Rock)

June

Happiness is a Horseshoe Crab Evening Edition

Saturday, June 5 from 6:30-8:30pm
\$8 per person (children under 3 are free)

Take a twilight walk along the beach with an instructor from the NJ Marine Sciences Consortium/NJ Sea Grant to learn about the amazing horseshoe crab and its special connection with tides, moon and other coastal creatures. Registration required. For more information and to register, call 732-872-1300 ext. 20.

Monmouth County Audubon Society

Sandy Hook Visitor Center
Thursday June 10 at 6 p.m.

If you are new to birding, this is the trip for you. Join a naturalist for an introduction to birding. Learn the basics of bird identification in the diverse habitats of Sandy Hook. Bring binoculars and weather-appropriate clothing.

Summer Solstice Walk

Meet at Guardian Park
Monday, June 21 at 8 p.m.

Join the American Littoral Society for a Summer Solstice walk. This is longest day of the year (in terms of daylight hours). Come early with your own picnic supper, dine on our porch (House 18), and then join us for a stroll. Free Call 732-291-0055 for reservations.

Night Hike

Meet in Visitor Center Parking Lot
Tuesday, June 29 at 8 p.m.

Visit a different site each month with a ranger guide. See horseshoe crab and bay creatures on the June night hike, hike to the salt marsh in July, and for the adventurous visitor, there is a "ranger's choice" hike for the August program.

July

Weird Sandy Hook

Post Theater Parking Lot
Tuesday, July 13 at 8 p.m.

Explore the various weird and wacky facts and myths surrounding the history and mysteries of Sandy Hook. Sites include parts of the Army proving ground, a maritime graveyard, and more! Reservations required; Call (732) 872-5970.

Family Seining Adventure

Thursdays July 15, 22 & 29

The American Littoral Society takes their seine net down to the water to see what can be found. You wouldn't know it from looking at it from above but there's a lot going on under the surface of Sandy Hook Bay and our net will help bring some the action to the surface. Call 732-291-0055 to reserve one of the dates above.

\$10 per member family

\$25 per non-member family

Live Theater at Sandy Hook: Christie's "Murder on the Nile"

Fort Hancock Theater

Fridays July 23 & 30 and

Saturdays July 24 & 31 at 8 p.m.

A recreation of Agatha Christie's story of a honeymoon cruise down the Nile that turns into a voyage of suspicion, intrigue, and murder. Climb aboard...if you dare! An admission will be charged: Call 732-471-8268 for tickets or information, or visit online at www.soarproductions.org

Night Hike

Meet in Visitor Center Parking Lot
Tuesday, July 27 at 7:30 p.m.

Hike to the salt marsh in July with a ranger guide. Bring bug repellent, a flashlight and your hiking shoes!

August

Discovering the Fishes of Sandy Hook – A Seining Adventure for the Family

Thursdays August 5, 12 & 19

The American Littoral Society takes their seine net down to the water to see what can be found. You wouldn't know it from looking at it from above but there's a lot going on under the surface of Sandy Hook Bay and our net will help bring some the action to the surface. Call 732-291-0055 to reserve one of the dates above.

\$10 per member family

\$25 per non-member family

Night Hike

Meet in Visitor Center Parking Lot
Tuesday, August 10 at 7:30 p.m.

Visit a different site each month with a ranger guide. For the adventurous visitor, this month's hike is the "ranger's choice" program, so the destination won't be announced until the night of the program. Bring bug repellent and flashlights!

Weird Sandy Hook

Post Theater parking lot

Tuesday, August 24 at 7:30 p.m.

Explore the various weird and wacky facts and myths surrounding the history and mysteries of Sandy Hook. Sites include parts of the Army proving ground, a maritime graveyard, and more! Reservations required; Call (732) 872-5970.



Junior Ranger and Jr. Junior Ranger Programs

Designed for children ages 7 to 14

Junior Ranger Piping Plover

North Beach Pavilion

Monday, July 26

from 10:30-11:50am

Be a plover private investigator, and figure out what predators are threatening the survival of plover chicks; then, invent solutions to protect the chicks, and see some for yourself through a spotting scope. Parents must accompany children for this program. Free, but reservations required. Call 732-872-5970.



Junior Ranger Marine Invader

Sandy Hook Visitor Center

Fridays July 9 & 23; August 20

10:30 am-11:50am

Participate in hands-on Citizen Scientist work by helping rangers find, catch, identify and track the Asian Shore Crab, and explore its potential impact on native crab species. Parents need to accompany children to this program. Free, but reservations are required. Call 732-872-5970.

Junior Ranger

Horseshoe Crab Scientist

Horseshoe Cove

Mondays July 5 and 19

10:30am- 11:50 am

Find, see and feel some living fossils from the age of dinosaurs that are still swimming along the shores today, and aid the survival of the horseshoe crab by hands-on participation in "Horseshoe Crab Rehab." Reservations required; Call (732) 872-5970.

Junior Ranger Air Defenders

Fire Station Number 1;

Across the street from Sandy Hook Lighthouse

Monday, August 9 10:30- 11:50 am

Build, aim, and fire your own "Nike" missile, just like the Nike Defense men located at Sandy Hook would have done during the Cold War era. Reservations required. Call 732-872-5970. Reservations are required: Call 732-872-5970 .

New! For 2-4 year olds: The Jr. Junior Ranger Program

Jr. Junior Ranger is a program designed for 2-4 year olds to learn about habitats and history on Sandy Hook. The program is being offered from 10 a.m. to 12p.m. weekly on Wednesdays from July 7– August 18. Children will learn through hikes, walks, and demonstrations, and a hands-on recycled or reclaimed material craft activity is built into every lesson.

Parents are required to accompany their children for the entirety of the program, and spaces are limited! Reservations required; a small donation is suggested to help offset materials costs. Call the Visitors Center at 732-872-5970 with questions, and to reserve your child's spot.

Jr. Junior Ranger Programs:

July 7th: Introduction to Habitats; Exploring Nature Safely

July 14th: Firefighting for "Little Squirts"; Jr. Junior Ranger Firefighter

July 21st: Habitats and Tracking of Sandy Hook's Animal Inhabitants

July 28th: Splishy, Splashy, Squishy; Let's go seining!

August 4th: Explore a Lighthouse, Then BYO (Build Your Own!)

August 11th: Creepy Crawlies & Water Babies: The Hook's Swimming Insects

August 18th: Surf, Sand, and Shells; Beach Habitats and Sandcasting

Junior Ranger Firefighter

Fire Station Number 1;

Across the street from Lighthouse Mondays July 12 and August 2

10:30am-11:50am



Participants will learn hands-on how fires have been extinguished in the past, and how they are handled now by National Park Service Firefighters at Sandy Hook. Reservations required; Call (732) 872-5970.

Junior Ranger Artillery Corps

Battery Gunnison

Friday July 30 from 10:30-11:50am



Learn the duties of a cannoneer, including how to load and operate a 6" coastal gun that protected New York Harbor during WWII. Reservations are required. Call 732-872-5970.

Junior Ranger Lifesavers

Sandy Hook Visitor Center

Fridays, July 16 and August 13

10:30 am-11:50 am



Explore the history of the US Lifesaving Service as a practicing Lifesaver, including faking drills, flag signaling and more! Free, but reservations required. Call 732-872-5970.

Summary of Repeating Summer Programs

Beach Apparatus Drill

On the beach in front of the Visitors Center

Every Thursday at 7 p.m., rangers re-enact the dramatic rescues from the era of the Lifesaving Service on Sandy Hook. Come, watch, and learn about U.S. L.S.S. exercises that include hauling the cart, firing the Lyle gun, signaling, and wreck-pole rescues.

Crustacean of the Day

Beach Area E

Rangers have fun facts and close-up looks at marine life to share with beachgoers of all ages. Come visit us in the afternoons on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at Beach Area E to see what creatures there are to learn about.

Canoe programs

Sandy Hook Visitor Center

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings

July 5-August 18; 10am-Noon

Take a morning paddle to explore Sandy Hook bay from an ideal vantage point—the water itself. Rangers guide you on a 2-hour tour of the bayside waters and Skeleton Hill Island. Free, but reservations required no later than Friday at 5pm before the date you wish to paddle. Call 732-872-5970.

From French Fries to Fuel: Biodiesel at the Beach

North Beach Pavilion

Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, July 7-August 19

Explore the process of making French fry grease into fuel with rangers at this hands-on demo.

Bike to Birds, Bunkers or Buildings

Chapel parking lot

Weekly on Mondays starting July 5- August 16

7pm- 8:30pm

Bring your own wheels and cycle with a ranger to explore either a building that is generally closed to the public; to a birding site; or to one of the many “bunkers” here. Topics rotate weekly.

Night and Sunrise Lighthouse Climbs

Sandy Hook Lighthouse

Night climbs: July 6, August 3, August 31

Sunrise Climbs: July 20, August 17

Sunrise climbers meet at the lighthouse by 5am in July, and 5:30am in August; night climbers meet at the lighthouse at 8pm in July and 7:30 in August.

Reservations are required for this program; Call (732) 872-5970

Sandy Hook Foundation Art Exhibit

Sandy Hook Lighthouse Keeper's Quarters

May 29-June 26: Robert Hillmann is a carpenter with the National Park Service on Sandy Hook, and his photography captures the treasure of Sandy Hook and Fort Hancock.

June 26-July 31: Like most landscape artists, Anthony Migliaccio is fascinated by the outdoors, which helps him maintain the integrity of his work while painting in the studio. One of his paintings of Sandy Hook was selected to hang in the Ariel Rios Building in Washington, DC.

July 31-September 4: Deborah Redde, a lifetime resident of the Jersey Shore and an avid sailor, paints on location. Redde is a past president of the Guild of Creative Art in Shrewsbury, NJ.

Seining at Sandy Hook

Horseshoe Cove

Fridays, July 2- August 20; 10am-Noon

Join our interpretive staff for a seining adventure to find out firsthand what marine creatures are lurking just beneath the surface of Sandy Hook Bay.

Cooperators @ Sandy Hook

The National Park Service's partners at Sandy Hook in education and research are:

American Littoral Society:

Phone at 732-291-0055

Online at www.littoralsociety.org

Army Ground Forces Association

Online at www.armygroundforces.org

Brookdale Community College

Phone 732-224-2435

Online at www.brookdalecc.edu/

Clean Ocean Action

Phone at 732-872-0111

Online at www.cleanoceanaction.org

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, Northeast Fisheries Center, Sandy Hook Laboratory

Phone at 732-872-3000

Online at <http://sh.nefsc.noaa.gov>

James J. Howard Marine Laboratory

Phone at 732-872-1762

Online at <http://sh.nefsc.noaa.gov/>

Marine Academy of Science and Technology

Phone at 732-291-0995

Online at www.mast.mcvsd.org

New Jersey Lighthouse Society

Phone at 732-291-4777

Online at www.njlhs.org

New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium

New Jersey Sea Grant

Phone at 732-872-1300

Online at www.njmssc.org

Sandy Hook Child Care Center

Phone at 732-291-2368

Visit us on the Web!

National Park Service, Gateway NRA: www.nps.gov/gate
Then scroll down the page to click on “Sandy Hook Unit”

The Sandy Hook Foundation—Sandy Hook's friends
group: www.sandyhookfoundation.org
732-291-7733

Follow the latest happenings on Twitter: @Gateway NPS